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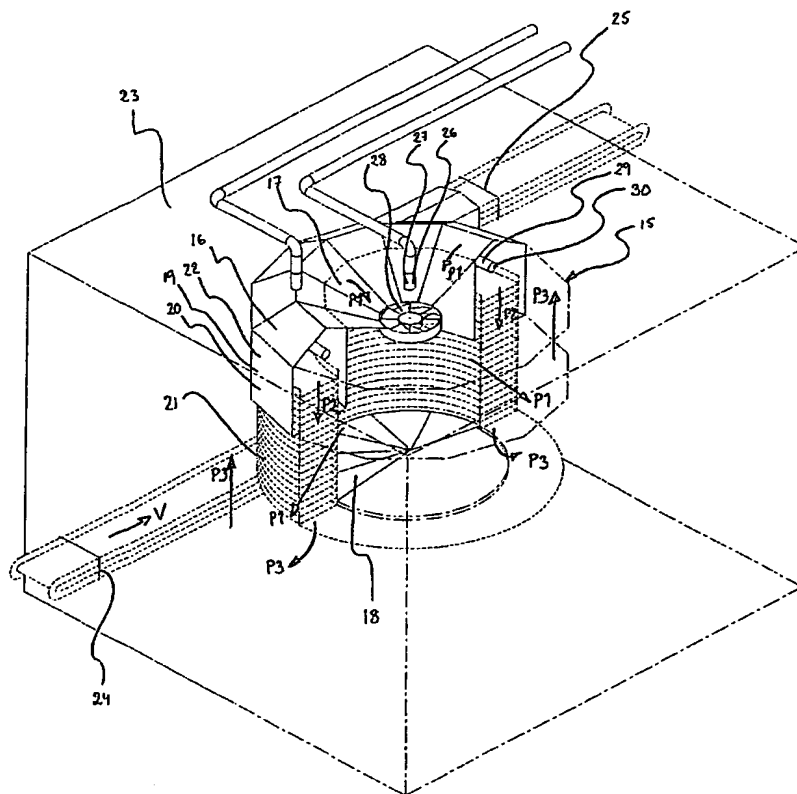
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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TREATMENT OF FOODSTUFFS WITH A GASEOUS MEDIUM FOR PRO-  
CESSING AND SUBSEQUENT DRYING



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to an apparatus for treatment of foodstuffs for processing and subsequent drying. The apparatus comprises an endless conveyor belt which along part of its length follows a helical path to form a stack, which helical path defines a central space in the stack. The conveyor belt has passages for letting a flow of a gaseous medium both vertically and horizontally through the stack. An end portion of the stack is vertically surrounded by an encapsulation. The apparatus comprises a first means for supplying a first gaseous medium to said central space, and a second means for supplying a second gaseous medium to the encapsulation. The encapsulation is arranged to direct the flow of the second gaseous medium in such a manner that it is passed vertically from said encapsulation to the rest of the stack. The invention also relates to a method for treatment of foodstuffs for processing and subsequent drying.

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